

also has responsibility for a long-range capital program approved by the Treasury Board in 1974 and again in 1979 and funded at a level of \$20 million annually; the object of the program is to increase crown ownership of office and living accommodation abroad as an economic alternative to escalating rental costs. The Bureau manages a realty inventory valued at approximately \$250 million; annual budgets total over \$30 million.

During 1979, the Bureau began construction on a chancery in Mexico and major renovations to the Paris chancery and annex. Fire damage was repaired and design begun for renovations to create a cultural centre at Canada House, London. The Bureau also continued with design work and negotiation on a number of projects in Belgrade, Lagos, Moscow, Peking, Tokyo and Washington.

Acquisition of properties was concentrated again in 1979 on western hemisphere countries where good economic opportunities became available. Chancery purchases were completed in Bogota (a building which will also contain six staff quarters) and Copenhagen. In addition, some 20 staff quarters were acquired in Atlanta, Bogota, Buenos Aires, Lima, Seattle, Birmingham and Glasgow. Agreement was also reached on a joint venture in Tokyo to build 13 staff quarters in return for equivalent value of surplus property.

Other activities of note during the year included leasing of property in Libreville for the opening of the new post and the move into newly leased premises of the Beirut official residence and of the chanceries in Guatemala and Port-au-Prince. The 1979 budget for furniture, furnishings and vehicles was about \$5 million.

Foreign representation in Canada and protocol

The number of countries having diplomatic relations with Canada is now 137: there are 73 resident ambassadors, 21 resident high commissioners, 29 non-resident ambassadors and 14 non-resident high commissioners. In addition, there is the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which is located in Montreal, with representatives from 41 nations and a secretariat, the delegation of the European Economic Commission, the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, the International Labour Office and the United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements. There are, as well, 322 consular and other foreign representative offices in Canada.

During 1979, the Office of the Chief of Protocol maintained contact with these missions, providing services and advice in accordance with Canada's obligations under international conventions and Canadian laws and regulations. Such matters as the protection of foreign embassy and consular personnel, and ceremonial arrangements involving the diplomatic corps and Government hospitality to foreign visitors, were the responsibility of this office. It was also responsible for overseeing the privileges and immunities of 819 diplomatic personnel, some of whom were resident outside Canada, 669 individuals and their families attached

to consulates, and 413 foreign administrative and support staff and their families. There were also 307 private servants working for foreign representatives. At the ICAO headquarters in Montreal there is, apart from the representatives of 41 countries, a Secretariat staff of 209 international civil servants, including senior officials with status similar to that of the diplomats. The office continued to help newly-arrived foreign personnel to understand Canadian customs and the Canadian laws and regulations they would be expected to observe, and while protecting the interests of Canadians, to intervene to prevent misunderstandings between members of the diplomatic community and Canadian citizens from adversely affecting the work of foreign missions.

The Office was also responsible for welcoming foreign visitors and for offering them Government hospitality. In 1979, the Office organized 302 hospitality functions and was involved in the arrangements for 97 visits to Canada. These included visits by, the President of Sénégal, the Prime Minister of France and the ministers of foreign affairs of the Republics of Korea, Sri Lanka, Luxembourg and Uganda. Arrangements were also co-ordinated for official travel abroad, firstly by the Prime Minister, to the United States of America, Japan, Cameroon, Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya; and by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, to Barbados, St. Lucia, Jamaica, France and Brussels.

Lists showing foreign representation in Canada may be obtained from the Department's Domestic Information Programs Division.

Privileges and immunities

The Department is responsible for the interpretation and application, in Canada and abroad, of the principles contained in relevant international agreements on privileges and immunities affecting diplomatic missions and consular posts and international organizations.

In 1979, the Legal Affairs Bureau studied and provided advice on the trends in international law regarding the privileges and immunities of international organizations. In that domain, legal status, privileges and immunities were sought for the newly created Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), of which Canada is a member, which will replace the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF). NAFO's Headquarters will be based in the province of Nova Scotia. A study on the granting of certain privileges and immunities to the "Common Fund", a new international organization to be created with a view to improving international co-operation in the field of commodities, was also undertaken.

In addition to these developments in international law, the Bureau has initiated a review of existing legislation in order to ensure that the protection to foreign missions and posts and their personnel in Canada should be in full conformity with Canada's international obligations.